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ous exercises, for all of which answers are given with the degree of numerically accurate approximation stated in each case.

Without doubt the teaching of mathematics in the present generation has embodied an extreme degree of formal theory and proof and all too little of contact with practical things. It is, however, an open question whether the exclusive use of a text like this one under consideration will not lead to the opposite extreme and tend to produce a generation of mechanical manipulators, who can work by the rules but who have no foundation of knowledge upon which to make rules for themselves or to work out along independent lines. It seems evident that both demonstrable knowledge and practical skill are necessary and that these should be developed simultaneously. Such a text as this may well be thrust into the present one-sided situation in order to restore the balance, but the ultimate result is likely to be the more equal blending of the two extremes.

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Essentials in English History. By ALBERT PERRY WALKER, in consultation with ALBERT BUSHNELL HART. New York: American Book Co., 1905. Pp. xlii + 550.

This book is in many respects an ideal textbook. The author has been very successful in eliminating unessential details and presenting only the leading issues of English history. The book is well adapted to the needs of high-school students and bears evidence to the fact that the writer, unlike a number of other authors of similar texts, has had experience in teaching pupils in secondary schools and does not aim above their heads. It is not a dry compend of facts, but a clear and interesting portrayal of the life and civilization of the English people from the earliest beginnings down to the present. The facts are well correlated; the author nowhere loses himself in meaningless details but constantly emphasizes the broad lines of historical development. He has been especially fortunate in his treatment of life and manners, of social, economic and intellectual progress. The chapters on the Tudor period are the weakest part of the book. The Reformation and Renaissance movements are inadequately presented. It is strange that in the description of the Reformation the name of Luther should not even be mentioned. The evolution of the Cabinet system might also have been more fully described. The author is at his best in his treatment of the modern period. The concluding chapter on England's contribution to civilization is especially commendable.

The book contains thirty-eight brief chapters: one for each week of the school year. The account is continuous, topical headings being placed in the margin. Helps to further study in the form of references, topics, bibliographies, and extracts from important documents add value to the volume. The maps and illustrations could hardly have been better chosen.

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Essentials in Mediæval and Modern History. By SAMUEL BANNISTER HARDING, in consultation with ALBERT BUSHNELL HART. New York: American Book Co., 1905. Pp. xxxi + 612.

This text, in accordance with the suggestion of the Committee of Seven, begins